

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF HOSPITAL
FOR SPECIAL SURGERY IN NEW
YORK CITY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS), founded and located in New York City, for receiving the first New York State Hospital Patient Safety Award for their superior effort to reduce medical errors. At a time when more attention is being paid to this area, the New York Department of Health created the award to promote measures to increase overall patient safety, and I am pleased that HSS has been the recipient of such an esteemed award.

Founded in 1863, the Hospital for Special Surgery is a world leader in orthopedics, rheumatology and rehabilitation. While the Hospital has monitored medication variances for many years, in July 2000 it began a project that required simple changes that yielded significant results. By asking doctors to use ball-point pens, fax original requests and replace old fax machines, the program resulted in an astounding 97.6 percent decline in the number of illegible orders received in the pharmacy from November 2000 to December 2001.

These types of innovative developments of methodology and technology have resulted in the Hospital being consistently ranked among the top three orthopedic and rheumatology centers in the nation in US News & World Report's annual survey of America's best hospitals. To date, their emphasis has been on development of orthopedic devices, such as total joint replacements. For example, the first modern knee replacement was developed at HSS, a landmark innovation that has benefited the lives of millions of patients around the world. In efforts to continue to make strides in this important area of research, the Hospital for Special Surgery is establishing a National Center for Musculoskeletal Research.

HSS has also uniquely collaborated with education programs at Cornell University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, City College of New York, and others that partner scientists and clinicians with faculty and students in mechanical engineering, materials science, civil engineering, veterinary medicine, and statistics to bring its biomedical advances to the bedside.

For these reasons and many others, the Department of Health for the United Kingdom of Great Britain has called upon HSS to train and mentor their physicians in order to improve orthopedic services in their countries. Currently, patients in Great Britain must wait 18 months before they may receive hip, knee or joint replacements, of which more than 70 percent require the use of a cane for more than a year after surgery. It is truly an honor for New York to have the Hospital for Special Surgery to be identified by the British healthcare system as

a mentor and model for addressing this health challenge.

I applaud the Hospital for Special Surgery's commitment to better document, track and administer prescribed medications to patients and strongly support their efforts to identify and remedy one of the most preventable threats to patient safety. I am very supportive of the Hospital's National Center for Musculoskeletal Research, as its establishment will continue to pursue breakthroughs in researching the orthopedic and rheumatological conditions that affect millions of Americans.

TRIBUTE TO THE BELLEVILLE
PUBLIC LIBRARY AND INFORMATION
CENTER

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the history and legacy of a groundbreaking institution, the Belleville Public Library and Information Center, in Belleville, New Jersey.

On Wednesday, April 24, 2002, friends, patrons, employees, and all those who have made the Belleville Public Library a cornerstone of its community gathered to celebrate its 100th anniversary.

It is thus only fitting that we honor the library's long history, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth, for it has been a beacon of learning and information for generations.

The Belleville Public Library was founded on January 4, 1902 by the Tuesday Afternoon Reading Club. It was initially located in a small store on William Street with a collection of only 432 books. After a temporary move in 1904, the library was given its permanent home in 1909. With the help of philanthropist Andrew Carnegie and so many dedicated citizens, the building was erected at 221 Washington Avenue.

President John Fitzgerald Kennedy once said, "The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and the dissemination of truth." The Belleville Public Library embodies this ideal, having made an impact on so many lives throughout its history.

One of the first libraries in the state to offer internet access, it today has sixteen computers. Citizens are provided free use of the internet and word processing programs. Well renowned for its cultural programming, the library also hosts monthly concerts, art lectures, poetry classes, video viewing, and book discussion groups.

The library's defining mark in the community, however, may be its work in serving the children of Belleville. With store hours for babies, toddlers, and preschoolers, as well as a major summer reading club and a myriad of activities throughout the year, the library's commitment to foster the growth of children is unwavering.

From its humble beginnings on William Street, the Belleville Public Library has grown into a public information center that had over 100,000 people pass through its doors in the year 2001.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the Township of Belleville, and me in recognizing the Belleville Public Library and Information Center.

CONGRATULATING 17 NORTHWEST
MISSOURI SCHOOL DISTRICTS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate 17 Northwest Missouri school districts that have been recognized as "most-improved" by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This recognition highlights the outstanding commitment Northwest Missouri has made to ensure that no child is left behind.

Since 1998, Missouri has administered the Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) tests yearly to measure a student's achievement. The mathematics assessment is given to fourth, seventh, and 10th graders. A communications arts assessment is given to third, seventh, and 11th graders, a science assessment is given to third, seventh, and 10th graders and a social studies assessment is given to the fourth, eighth, and 11th grades. A health/physical education assessment is given to fifth and ninth graders as well. These important tests help Missouri's schools identify both strong and weak academic areas. Most importantly, the MAP tests illustrate the progress Northwest Missouri's school districts have made in providing students with the best available education.

I would like to acknowledge the Saint Joseph school district, which appeared four times on the "most improved top ten" list. These schools are Hall Elementary, Webster Elementary (appeared twice), and Lafayette High School. Barry School, in Platte County, appeared three times on the top ten list, and Nodaway County placed four of its schools on the list.

Other Northwest Missouri schools appearing on the most improved list include Chillicothe High School, Penney High School, Pickering Elementary School, Tri-County High School, West Platte High School, Craig High School, Fairfax Elementary School, North Harrison High School, Northeast Nodaway High School, Pattonsburg High School, Savannah High School, Smithville High School, South Nodaway High School, Southwest High School, Stanberry Elementary, Tri-County Elementary, West Nodaway High School, and West Nodaway Elementary.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the above schools for their ongoing efforts to strengthen education and the hard-working students who demonstrated their

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

knowledge. I am confident these schools will continue to successfully meet their educational goals.

BILL TO ELIMINATE THE DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA UNDER THE FEDERAL HATCH ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to eliminate the discriminatory treatment of the District of Columbia under the federal Hatch Act. This bill would reverse the undemocratic and discriminatory inclusion of the District of Columbia, including its teachers, in the federal Hatch Act.

The introduction of this bill today follows the recent announcement by the U.S. Office of Special Counsel that the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board (Board) had granted its petition for the removal of Mr. Tom Briggs, a D.C. public school teacher at Dunbar Senior High School. Mr. Briggs lost his job after the Board found that he had violated provisions of the federal Hatch Act that apply only to the District of Columbia and no other local jurisdiction. These provisions prohibit D.C. public school teachers and other D.C. government employees from being candidates for partisan political office, despite the fact that teachers in the 50 states are exempt from the Act, and despite the fact that the District of Columbia is the only local jurisdiction in the Act treated as if it were a federal agency. In 2000, Mr. Briggs ran as the Statehood Green party candidate for Ward 2 Council Member.

My bill would remove discriminatory provisions in the federal Hatch Act that apply only to the District of Columbia and would exempt D.C. teachers, like the teachers from the 50 states, from the federal Hatch Act prohibition against seeking partisan elective office. The effective date of the bill is the year 2000, in order to remove Mr. Briggs' apparent violation of an antiquated, anti-home rule law that cannot be justified today. The Briggs case is particularly harmful because the victims of this inequity are not D.C. employees but the children in Mr. Briggs' class, who will face severe disruption to the continuity of their learning by having their popular and energetic teacher removed prior to the close of the school year.

My bill would leave the District to craft its own local laws in accordance with local needs and norms. It is certain that the D.C. City Council would enact its own local law to avoid any gap, and I have secured the commitment of the appropriate members of the Council to introduce and guide the local law to passage.

This is not the first time I have objected to discriminatory treatment of the District of Columbia under the federal Hatch Act. Nearly a decade ago, Congress passed the Hatch Act Reform Amendments of 1993, a bill which ended most of the limitations on political rights of federal employees. However, the bill contained perverse provisions that leave D.C. government employees alone among employees of the 50 states and the four territories under the federal Hatch Act. Although I was successful in keeping the District of Columbia

language out of the House version of the 1993 amendments, the Senate included the language. Opponents of Hatch Act reform blocked a conference on the House and Senate versions of the bill, where I had intended to press for the Senate to recede to the House's position. Consequently, the 1993 reform law passed ironically benefiting 62,000 federal employees who lived in the District and, if they taught at Dunbar could seek public office, yet punishing the 40,000 District employees targeted by the law. In my comments on the floor prior to passage of the 1993 bill, I said: "I serve notice now that I am not through today. I will not be through until, with the help of others in this House, I succeed in making District employees the equal of the employees of other state and local jurisdictions. Today, we must blush as we try to conceive of any justification for such disparate treatment. I pledge to work to eliminate the shameful distinction we create today."

After the 1993 fight, I subsequently introduced legislation in 1996 to free the District from discriminatory treatment under the federal Hatch Act. It has not been possible to move appropriate legislation since, largely because no overall review of the Hatch Act, where such changes are generally made, has occurred. However, in light of the Briggs termination, I am asking the House to pass a stand alone bill.

The case of Mr. Briggs simply brings home the sad fact that the District of Columbia, and particularly its school teachers, have been singled out in a manner that is a complete affront to fairness, democratic principles, and self government. I urge my colleagues to support this bill to eliminate the discriminatory treatment of the District of Columbia under the federal Hatch Act in order to remove this unjust anomaly without delay.

**THE RETURN OF AN ANCIENT
HATRED**

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, one collateral disturbing aspect of the current crisis in the Middle East is the rise in anti-Semitism in various parts of the world. It is particularly distressing to see the virulent outburst of this vicious prejudice in Europe, where many of us had hoped that the terrible experience of the past formed a stronger barrier against it.

Obviously people have a right to be critical of particular policies of the government of Israel in a given time. Indeed, since Israel continues to be a vibrant democracy even in the face of the violence now occurring in that part of the world, some of the most trenchant criticisms of Israeli policy come from Israelis themselves. But there is a sharp line between expressing differences with particular actions of the Israeli government and expression of anti-Semitism, and, sadly, that line has been crossed far too often in recent months in Europe.

In a very well reasoned editorial on Saturday, April 20, the New York Times speaks out cogently against this renewed anti-Semitism. Because this is such a well reasoned and powerful statement on a subject of great im-

portance to us in our deliberations, I ask that it be printed here.

THE RETURN OF AN ANCIENT HATRED

When many in the Muslim world blamed Israel and its supposed desire to discredit Islam for the Sept. 11 attacks, most Americans dismissed the report as a deformed joke. But just as the attacks forced Americans to face the fact that there are deadly serious groups seeking to destroy us, so some of the anti-Semitic actions in Europe in recent months cause us to wonder whether, six decades after the Holocaust, we are witnessing a resurgence of the virulent hatred that caused it.

Expressions of sympathy for the Palestinians or criticism of the Israeli military campaign in the West Bank are of course entirely appropriate. What is troubling are hateful statements and actions like the bombs thrown at Jewish schools, centers and groups in France, or the Orthodox Jews beaten on the streets of Belgium and Berlin or the truck bomb driven into the ancient synagogue in Tunisia. We worry that such actions, largely by Muslim extremists, touch a historic chord in Europe that is not being confronted.

Israelis have been too quick, over the years, to view criticism of their government as motivated by anti-Semitism. But it is hard to think of another word for the way some critics of Israel's policy toward the Palestinians are expressing their opposition. The dark of shadow of Europe's past seemed to be reappearing when the liberal Italian daily *La Stampa* depicted a baby Jesus looking up from the manger at an Israeli tank, saying, "Don't tell me they want to kill me again." Or when a Lutheran bishop in Denmark delivered a sermon in the Copenhagen Cathedral comparing Ariel Sharon's policies toward the Palestinians to those of King Herod, who ordered the slaughter of all male children under the age of 2 in Bethlehem.

Political opinion in Europe is certainly one-sided when it comes to the Mideast conflict. Members of the Norwegian Nobel committee have publicly called for the withdrawal of the Peace Prize from the Israeli foreign minister, Shimon Peres, but not from his co-winner, Yasir Arafat. The European Parliament voted to urge member governments to impose trade sanctions on Israel but urged no action against the Palestinian Authority. Historically, the far right and far left have not agreed on much. These days they seem united in their contempt for the Jewish state.

This was evident last summer at the international conference against racism in Durban, South Africa, which turned into a celebration of Israel hatred. Zionism was once again equated with racism and Israel's legitimacy came under repeated attack.

Focusing on the suffering of only one side is also not the same as anti-Semitism, although it is distressing. Just as there are American politicians who believe they have no political room to maneuver when it comes to support for Israeli policies, so there are European politicians with large Muslim constituencies whose voters do not want to see them acknowledging gray areas in this fight. There are also other explanations for the European mood. Guilt over the Holocaust may be salved with the thought that Jews, too, can act with cruelty. And given American sponsorship of Israel, being fashionably anti-American can easily mean being anti-Israel.

But much of Europe has a special responsibility to be cautious. Its cultures are drenched in a history of anti-Semitism. The mixing of historic European anti-Semitism with the more modern version in the Muslim world is a dangerous cocktail.

All this does not mean that Israel should be above criticism. Far from it. But it does

mean that when you read of hooded men shouting "Death to Jews" attacking a Jewish soccer team in suburban Paris, as happened recently, it should prompt some profound soul-searching about whether the past has come calling.

IN RECOGNITION OF HAROLD
SNYDER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Harold Snyder who will be celebrating his 80th birthday on April 25, 2002. Mr. Snyder has been a successful business man, a philanthropist, and a visionary.

Harold Snyder was born and raised in New York City. The son of immigrants, he grew up in desperate poverty, often going without adequate food or shelter. With determination and hard work, he helped raise his younger sister and in 1939 graduated from Erasmus Hall High School in Brooklyn, New York. After graduating, he served his country bravely and proudly in the Air Force from 1941 to 1945. He was able to use the benefits he received from his service to attend New York University, where he graduated in 1948. He then received his Master's degree from Columbia University in 1950.

With his wife Beatrice, Mr. Snyder began a personal and professional partnership that would last 50 years. In 1964, Harold and Beatrice co-founded Biocraft Laboratories, Inc. Under Mr. Snyder's leadership, Biocraft became one of the largest manufacturers of generic drugs in the United States. During the three decades of his tenure as President and Chief Executive Officer, Biocraft also became the first generic drug company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

In 1996 Biocraft was acquired by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd., the largest pharmaceutical company in Israel. Mr. Snyder now serves on the Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, Ltd. Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

Along with his many professional accomplishments, Mr. Snyder was at the forefront of the effort to pass legislation to encourage the use of generic drugs, giving millions of people access to safe and effective low cost drugs. Mr. Snyder is one of the founders of the Pharmaceutical Industry Association and has lectured extensively on pharmaceutical manufacturing at various colleges and universities.

Mr. Snyder enjoyed 50 years with his beloved wife Beatrice, before she passed away in 1998. With their three children, Beryl, Jay and Brian, he formed the Beatrice Snyder Foundation which has championed a number of philanthropic causes, including the Lincoln Center of Performing Arts, the Memorial Sloan Cancer Center and the New York Hospital Medical Center of Queens. The generosity of the Snyder family has also touched the lives of those most greatly affected by the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, with their generous support of the September 11 Fund. Most recently, Mr. Snyder sponsored a scholarship to send an inner city high school student to Antarctica to work with scientists. By providing this exceptional opportunity, he

hopes to inspire a talented young person to achieve.

Mr. Speaker, for his many contributions, I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting Mr. Harold Snyder.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM M. VACCA

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Mr. William M. Vacca, of Totowa, New Jersey, who was recognized on Wednesday, April 17, 2002 for his lifelong dedication to Don Bosco Technical High School in Paterson, New Jersey.

Bill Vacca joined the Athletic Department at Don Bosco as a volunteer in 1970, and has been there ever since. A full time employee in Passaic County's historic textile industry, Bill has dedicated an immeasurable amount to those who make up the Don Bosco Tech family.

It is thus only fitting that he be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on earth. This is a man who has lived the phrase "give something back."

Born in Paterson on September 29, 1953, to William and Catherine Vacca, Bill attended local public grammar school before moving on to Don Bosco Tech. Upon his graduation in 1970, he immediately began to invest his energies back into the institution he loved. After eleven years as Assistant Athletic Director, Bill Vacca was named Athletic Director in 1981.

Sadly, Don Bosco Tech will be permanently closing its doors later this year. This does not obscure the fact that Bill Vacca, along with so many other caring colleagues, made Don Bosco Tech a special place.

Mr. Speaker, I sent all three of my sons to Don Bosco. I can say without reservation that the work of individuals like Bill Vacca will live on in the faces of those who attended that wonderful school.

While the closing of Don Bosco Technical High School will cause great sadness in the greater Paterson area, it also be a time for celebration. All those touched by Bill Vacca and the Don Bosco community will treasure the memories and honor the successes they achieved.

The job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing the efforts of individuals like Bill Vacca.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the City of Paterson, Bill's family and friends, the Don Bosco Technical High School family, and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service of William M. Vacca.

HONORING CALHOUN HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to the Calhoun High School "We the

People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" team from Port Lavaca, Calhoun County, Texas. Under the exemplary leadership of Gennie Burleson Westbrook, the 2001-2002 Calhoun High School team placed third in the statewide competition held on January 5, 2002, at the University of Texas Law School in Austin, Texas, which was hosted by the State Bar of Texas. The team included the following students: Karin Chen, Candice Cook, Chelsea Ghiselin, Tiffany Harvey, Kimberlee Hobizal, Major Hoffman, Stephen Jedlicka, Scott Kelly, Josh McClellan, Thomas Nguyen, Matt Thomas, Vanessa Thorne, and Andrew Wu.

The "We the People" program was begun in 1987, with the goal of enhancing students' understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy, while guiding them to discover modern day applications of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. It is a time consuming study requiring many hours of preparation, both in and out of the classroom. Each participant takes a multiple-choice test, and prepares for a simulated Congressional hearing in which students "testify" before a panel of judges.

Following a prepared five-minute presentation covering specific topics demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principals, the judges quizzed the students with thought-provoking questions pertaining to their subject. The students took and defended their positions, using both historic and contemporary examples.

Preparation for the state contest also required assistance from members of the community who came forward to volunteer to work with the team members. I salute the following volunteers: Connie Hunt, Mark Daigle, Shannon Salyer, Britney Salyer, Edris Montalvo, Darren Hartl, Joane McDonough, Phillip Swope, and Larry Nichols.

I am proud to have these students in the 14th Congressional District of Texas. I am proud of the commitment to excellence and perseverance shown by each student. I am proud of the support shown by the parents and volunteers which helped them reach for their goal.

I trust all my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2001-2002 "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" team on their third place win in state competition.

MEDIA MERGERS ATE OUR NEWS

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to your attention an excellent article that recently ran in Seven Days, a weekly newspaper in Burlington, Vermont. The article discusses the increasingly superficial reporting and a growing conservative agenda dominating the nation's televisions, radios and newspapers. The article also highlights a Congressional Town Meeting that I held to discuss the topic of corporate control of the media.

[From the Seven Days, Apr. 24, 2002]

MEDIA MERGERS ATE OUR NEWS!

(By Susan Green)

The families flocking to Palmer? Here are some of the things that took place last

Thursday: An Amtrak train derailed in Florida. Families of Flight 93 passengers listened to the September 11 cockpit voice recording. The Senate defeated a Bush administration proposal to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. And four Canadian soldiers were killed by American "friendly fire" in Afghanistan.

But what did all three cable news channels—CNN, MSNBC and Fox—spend the night broadcasting? The arrest in Los Angeles of actor Robert Blake for murder. Their reports included his entire uneventful 40-minute ride to the police station.

"We're inundated with scandal and sensationalism in the media. Important topics get very little attention," suggests U.S. Congressman Bernie Sanders, who is alarmed that just a few multinational corporations "own and control the flow of information in the United States."

This week Sanders will come home to host "The Media and Democracy," two back-to-back forums on what he sees as increasingly superficial reporting and a growing right-wing agenda dominating the nation's television, radio and newspapers. The town-meeting-style discussions, on Sunday in Montpelier and Monday in Burlington, will feature Robert McChesney and John Nichols, co-authors of *It's the Media Stupid*.

Sanders and his two guests are particularly alarmed that a handful of media outlets—AOL/Time-Warner, Fox, NBC and Viacom—recently won a lawsuit to abolish a longstanding Federal Communications Commission rule that prohibited cable companies from acquiring local TV stations. In addition, any one company may soon be able to provide television service to more than 35 percent of the nation's households, an arrangement that was previously forbidden. Smells like a monopoly.

"I'm organizing members of Congress to justify why it's important to maintain those rules," Sanders explains. "Radio was deregulated in 1996, and that's been a disaster. Big companies, like Clear Channel, have bought up hundreds of locally owned stations across the country. Talk radio is now completely dominated by the Right. It's a very frightening situation." Of the 1225 stations Texas-owned Clear Channel owns nationwide 10 are in Vermont, four of those in the Burlington market—WCPV, WEZF, WJVT, and WXZO. Independents like Ken Squier find it challenging to compete. "They've got all the syndicated shows we might want and they go after the same advertising dollars," says the head of Radio Vermont, a family of stations that includes WKDR, WCVT and WDEV. "Vermont Public Radio is also a problem. They are government-subsidized but hitting on the same sponsors we do."

Vermont's radio wars make more noise than corresponding battles in the print media. For one thing, there are fewer paper soldiers. The Burlington Free Press, purchased by the Virginia-based Gannett Corporation from a local publisher in the 1970s, maintains a moderate political tone in a one-daily town.

But "following the standard corporate line," as Sanders puts it, may explain why the largest newspaper in Vermont never took a stand on the civil-union controversy, while David Moats at the independently owned Rutland Herald won a Pulitzer Prize for his editorials advocating equal rights for gay couples.

Author John Nichols, a Washington correspondent for *The Nation*, believes that the impending changes in FCC regulations "could have a profound effect on corporations like Gannett." Despite owning 95 daily newspapers, 22 TV stations and the flagship national publication *USA Today*, the company is "not a major player" compared with

an outsized media mogul like Rupert Murdoch, says Nichols. Sanders asserts that the Australian honcho is an "extreme right-winger" who is "pushing the other media to the right." The U.S. holdings include *The New York Post* and Fox. Murdoch's News Corp. is fifth on a list of media monopolists, after Time Warner, Disney and Viacom. General Electric ranks seventh. Nichols thinks it's probably just a matter of time before News Corp. or an equivalent mega-media organization grabs Gannett and turns all the little Free Press-like rags into strident conservative mouthpieces.

Of course, many Americans are getting out of the reading habit altogether. Television rules. Sanders points out that the three area network affiliates, WVNY, WPTZ and WCAX, are cogs in the machinery of giant conglomerates: Disney's ABC, GE's NBC and Viacom's CBS, respectively.

Dianne Lynch, chair of the journalism department at St. Michael's College in Colchester, suspects Sanders is "right about mainstream TV," but, she suggests, "mainstream TV is no longer our only choice in getting information."

As someone who's professionally "wired"—she writes a column about women and technology for ABC.com—Lynch sees the Internet as a wellspring of diverse voices, along with cable television and many small publications. "When I was growing up, we only had four television channels to choose from. Today, I can get the BBC on my cable channel or read *The London Times* online," she says. "People looking for a range of opinions know where to go for them."

Nichols and McChesney believe those diverse views should come to us more easily—and claim it's not too late to make sure they do. "We are actually at a critical transition point," Nichols observes. If the 800-pound gorillas get their way, he contends, "in places like Burlington, newspapers, cable companies, TV and radio stations could all be owned by the same company. That's not healthy—and I'm not overstating the case. We must be vigilant. A lot can be done at the grassroots level."

That's where Nichols, now 41, got his start. As a kid, he wrote for weekly newspapers in rural Wisconsin. "I'd take a camera and ride my bike to every little town meeting," he recalls. "Apart from a few deviations into rock bands, journalism is what I've done all my life."

In addition to the book he wrote with Robert McChesney, a University of Illinois research professor, Nichols penned last year's *Jews for Buchanan*, about the 2000 presidential election fiasco in Florida. The duo teamed up again for *Our Media, Not Theirs*, a sequel to *It's the Media, Stupid* due out this fall.

McChesney hosts "Media Matters," a weekly radio AM program in his home state. He's also written or edited a total of eight books, including *Rich Media, Poor Democracy: Communication Politics in Dubious Times*, which was published two years ago. Like Nichols, he has rock 'n' roll roots. In 1979 McChesney founded a Seattle music magazine, *The Rocket*, that helped give birth to the grunge scene.

Not surprisingly, both men advocate self-empowerment. "The American people own the broadcast airways," Nichols says.

"We have not begun to exercise our legitimate authority. But first, we have to think about what we would like. Once we imagine a media we want, then we can act. We have the ability to develop BBC-quality programming."

Nichols acknowledges that the "unmitigated crap" now on TV should not be censored, however. "I'm not saying that, in my perfect media world, all we'd do is sit

around and watch PBS. It doesn't mean everything has to be of redeeming value. I just want citizens to understand they have a right to demand better."

"Jerry Springer," "Fear Factor" and "Judge Judy" should take note: Mindless programs can co-exist with more intellectual offerings. "But that lowest-common-denominator media does affect public policy," Nichols says. "Stations like Fox have such jingoistic and irresponsible journalism. The Florida recount coverage was woefully inept, driven by the spin of the Democratic and the Republican camps. That's what happens when you have bad media."

Nichols, who has written for the *New York Times* and other prestigious publications also warns, "Until we get a better media, a lot of work we do on fundamental issues will go for naught. Without a media that allows diverse voices, it's going to be hard to get the message out on all other important struggles."

MSNBC runs a promo that boasts it's a channel "with so many different points of view, one of them is bound to be yours." But it's unlikely any of them is Bernie's. Sanders asserts that both newspapers and cable channels fail to present a true leftist or even balanced perspective. Programs devoted to serious news only explore opinions ranging from the center to the extreme right.

Oliver North, the Marine colonel who masterminded much of the covert and seemingly illegal Iran-Contra dealings in the '80s, has been recruited by Fox News to command his own talk show. Not to be outdone, MSNBC boasts Alan Keyes, an ultra-conservative candidate in the last presidential election, now offering nightly punditry. CNN's "Crossfire" always manages to find arch Republican cheerleaders like Robert Novak who can overpower even formidable Democratic operatives like James "Ragin' Cajun" Carville.

Yet the tone of debate—when there is any—tends to be purposely theatrical. "Politics has become entertainment," Sanders laments. Nobody's talking about the nuts and bolts, he argues. "Despite all the hoopla over the economy, Americans are working longer hours for less wages. People have two or three jobs. That doesn't sound like a boom economy to me. Who's focussing on the plight of the middle class? It's a good issue, right? It's never discussed. The richest 1 percent owns more wealth than the bottom 95 percent does. Ever hear that on a TV program?"

Ditto for unionization, health care and a plethora of other themes neglected in favor of shallow examinations of movie stars who murder their wives, or the personal indiscretions of political figures. "We get endless coverage of sex, celebrity and crime," Sanders says.

He wonders why right-leaning news outfits have become so influential when "we are really a centrist country. Al Gore and Ralph Nader got a few million more votes than Bush, so actually we might be a hair to the left." Even in left-leaning Vermont, Sanders laments the dearth of progressive voices on the radio.

As one of only two Independents in the House of Representatives—Virgil Goode, Jr. of Virginia is the other—Sanders worries that the very notion of independence is being erased from what Americans see, hear and read. He compares the media monopoly by the Communist Party in the former Soviet union to today's corporate totalitarianism here.

The motivation is different, though. "If the progressive point of view was a marketplace seller, you would find it everywhere," Lynch suggests. "I do think everything's market-driven. Welcome to the world."

Whatever the agenda, Sanders sees diversity of viewpoints itself as crucial to our way of life. In a brochure announcing his "Media and Democracy" town meetings, he writes, "If just a few corporations are allowed to control both production and distribution of the news and programming across America, democracy itself is in danger." In a world in which cable companies, TV stations and local newspapers are all merged, "Millions of Americans will be receiving virtually all of their information from a single source," he points out.

Though she is also wary of "media consolidation," Lynch is more skeptical about championing the alternatives. "We have to be careful not to idealize independent ownership," she says. "Commercial pressures do not go away when you're individually owned. You don't suddenly have total freedom of expression, freedom from the marketplace. The homogeneity of the message is as much about commercial pressure as it is about corporate structure."

But Nichols hails the Green Mountain State as one of last bastions of media liberty. "Look at the Rutland Herald, a Pulitzer Prize-winning small newspaper. Vermont ain't perfect, but it's better than many places in the country. You still have a lot of locally owned operations. Things aren't so bad there."

Halfway around the globe, there's evidence of a movement to create a people's media. Nichols has spent time in New Zealand, which is "expanding the number of radio stations in the public sphere." He touts a station operated by the island nation's indigenous Maori people, and another "run by and for those under the age of 25."

In this corner of New England, "an individual state can have a lot of impact," Nichols adds. "You guys can really be part of a solution. Why not increase public funding for public radio or create an all-news-all-the-time station? In the little state of Vermont, there is a lot you can do. If one place does it right, you can dramatically influence the rest of America."

Congressman Bernie Sanders, Robert McChesney and John Nichols weigh in on "The Media and Democracy" on Sunday, April 28, 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church in Montpelier; and Monday, April 29, 7:30 p.m. at the CC Theater in Billings Student Center at the University of Vermont. A special free media workshop for teachers, and students and community members will be held on Monday at 4 p.m. in Waterman's Memorial Lounge at UVM.

IN RECOGNITION OF SENATOR ROY M. GOODMAN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to State Senator Roy M. Goodman, who was one of the most effective legislators ever to serve the East Side of Manhattan. Senator Goodman has devoted his career to making New York City a better place to live. His decision to retire from office has cost East Siders a remarkable leader and a renowned champion of the Arts.

A stalwart supporter of civic and community causes, Senator Goodman served 33 years in the State Senate. In recognition of his leadership skills, he was appointed the Senate's Deputy Majority Leader for Policy. During his

tenure in Albany, more than 1,200 of the bills of which he was a sponsor became law.

Senator Goodman's major initiatives have included sponsorship of legislation to increase police patrols and toughen gun and ammunition controls; provide tax fairness for the owners of co-ops and condos; expand women's right to choose; increase protections against domestic violence; cut the state income and corporate taxes; provide better housing and tenant protection; protect children against abuse; combat discrimination; and expedite school construction. In addition, Senator Goodman was often chosen to be lead sponsor of the Mayor's proposals to increase state aid for New York City.

As the leading legislative advocate of the arts in New York State, he was Chairman of the Senate Special Committee on the Arts and Cultural Affairs. He is legendary for his success in obtaining state funding for New York's museums and cultural organizations. Senator Goodman was also appointed by President Bush and unanimously approved by the U.S. Senate as a member of the National Endowment for the Arts Council, on the basis of his distinguished service and eminence in the arts. In 1996, he was named Ambassador for the Arts by the National Endowment for the Arts in recognition of his unwavering support of the arts and cultural affairs.

From 1972 through 1975, Senator Goodman served as the Chairman of the New York State Charter Revision Commission for New York City, which significantly revised City government structure. In 1977, he was the Republican candidate for Mayor of New York City.

Father of three and grandfather of three, Senator Goodman received an A.B. degree with Honors from Harvard College in 1951 and a Master's Degree with Distinction from the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration in 1953. He received an honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Pratt Institute.

Senator Goodman serves on the boards of the Carnegie Hall Corporation, Temple Emanu-El, and M & T Bank Corporation. He is also a member of the Harvard Overseer's Visiting Committee for the John F. Kennedy School of Government and a Fellow for Life of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Additionally, he is President of the Goodman Family Foundation, a philanthropic trust. Senator Goodman will continue to play significant role in public life as CEO and President of the United Nations Development Corporation. I look forward to working with him in his new capacity.

In recognition of his many outstanding achievements, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring State Senator Roy M. Goodman. Senator Goodman's years of devoted public service shine as a model for us all.

HONORING SAN MARCOS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to the San Marcos High School "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" team from San Marcos, Hays County, Texas.

Under the exemplary leadership of Paula Wolking and Leslie Wiederhold, the 2001-2002 Calhoun High School team placed second in the statewide competition held on January 5, 2002, at the University of Texas Law School in Austin, Texas, which was hosted by the State Bar of Texas. The team included the following 29 seniors: Kelli Avila, Jason Baen, Marisa Bell-Metereau, Erin Blum, Paul Buntyn, Mariah Campbell, Amy Carlson, John David Carson, Samantha Charleston, Justyn Contreras, Heather Davis, Jacob Delgado, Veronica De La Garza, Matt Diaz, Shelby Eastland, Jessica Gifford, Megan Hansen, Kari Howe, J R Manrique, Rachel Martin, Genesis McCoo, Jenny Morrison, Lani Ogle, Valerie Perez, Amara Richardson, Orlando Sanchez, Francesca Scanio, Kim Spire, and Joshua Yanity.

The "We the People" program was begun in 1987, with the goal of enhancing students' understanding of the institutions of American constitutional democracy, while guiding them to discover modern day applications of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. It is a time consuming study requiring many hours of preparation, both in and out of the classroom. Each participant takes a multiple-choice test, and prepared for a simulated Congressional hearing in which students "testify" before a panel of judges.

Following a prepared five-minute presentation covering specific topics demonstrating their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principals, the judges quizzed the students with thought-provoking questions pertaining to their subject. The students took and defended their positions, using both historic and contemporary examples.

I am proud to have these students in the 14th Congressional District of Texas. I am proud of the commitment to excellence and perseverance shown by each student. I am proud of the support shown by the parents and volunteers which helped them reach their goal.

I trust all my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2001-2002 "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" team on their second place win in state competition.

CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 476, the Child Custody Protection Act, is an important measure that Congress should pass and allow President Bush to sign. Transporting minors across State lines for abortions to circumvent State parental involvement laws is a widespread problem in our country.

In this Country we, as citizens, do not allow our minor children to drive a car, to buy alcohol, or cigarettes, or even to vote. How can we as parents allow minor children to travel across certain State lines to obtain an abortion, without parental consent?

The purpose of the Child Custody Protection Act is twofold. The first is to protect the health and safety of young girls by preventing valid and constitutional State parental involvement laws from being circumvented. This is not a Federal parental involvement law. This plainly

ensures that these State laws are not evaded through interstate activity. This bill is the Federal reinforcement to the enacted State measures providing constitutionally sound parental involvement in their childrens lives. Parental involvement during one of the most terrifying decisions a minor girl will ever make will improve medical care and safety for those young women.

The second purpose is to protect the rights of parents to be involved in the medical decisions of their minor daughters. Parents need to be aware that their minor daughter may be subjected to surgery or to the administration of drugs that could be dangerous to her health. There may be a multiple of potential health risks that the minor has no knowledge about including a history of family illness or allergies.

This is something that affects our entire Nation. In fact, in 1997, a study in the American Journal of Public Health reported that a leading abortion provider in Missouri refers minors out of State for abortions if the girls do not want to involve their parents. Reproductive Health Services, which performs over half of the abortions performed in Missouri, refers minors to the Hope Clinic for Women in Granite City, Illinois. Research reveals that based on the available data the odds of a minor traveling out of State for an abortion increased by over 50 percent when Missouri's parental consent law went into effect. Furthermore, compared to older women, underage girls were significantly more likely to travel out of State to have their abortions.

A 1999 St. Louis Post-Dispatch news report confirms that the Hope Clinic in Illinois continues to attract underage girls seeking abortions without parental involvement. According to the report, the Hope Clinic performed 3,200 abortions on out-of-State women last year, and the clinic's executive director estimates that number is 45% of the total abortions performed at the clinic. The executive director also estimates that 13% of the clinic's clients are minors.

This legislation will work to protect our young children. I thank my colleagues for supporting this legislation and I look forward to swift action by the Senate. We cannot allow our children to make this life altering decision alone. Parents need to provide a protective hand; H.R. 476 is the protection our children deserve.

YMCA OF GREENVILLE, SOUTH
CAROLINA

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, the YMCA is dedicated to building strong kids, strong families and strong communities; and

Whereas, the YMCA serves people of all ages, incomes and abilities through a wide variety of programs and services designed to meet changing needs; and

Whereas, the YMCA of Greenville lives its mission every day, "To put Christian principles into practice through programs that build healthy spirit, mind and body for all"; and

Whereas, the YMCA of Greenville provides parents with high-quality, affordable child care, provides teens with a safe place to go after school; provides families a fun, affordable place to spend time together; provides seniors with social programs; and provides healthy programs and services for everyone in the community; and

Whereas, the YMCA of Greenville is part of a national movement that serves nine million children per year, that is the nation's largest child care provider, that currently serves one in ten teens, and that incorporate the values of caring, honesty, respect and responsibility into all of its programs; and

Whereas, the YMCA of Greenville will further its commitment to this community with the opening of the George I. Theisen North Greenville Family Branch YMCA.

Therefore, be it resolved by the United States Congress, that it takes great pleasure in recognizing the newest member of the Greenville YMCAs—the George I. Theisen North Greenville Branch YMCA—and acknowledging with great pride the positive impact of the organization in this community.

COMMEMORATE THE DEDICATION
OF THE RENOVATED BETHESDA-
CHEVY CHASE HIGH SCHOOL

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the dedication of a newly renovated Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School (B-CC High School). B-CC High School has, for the past seven decades, been a vital part of the community—growing from a little brick school house to the culturally diverse school it is today.

On April 28, B-CC alumni, families, former staff members, and students dedicated their renovated high school and highlighted the significant events occurring throughout the schools history. The origins of B-CC High School can be traced back to 1925, with a school house opening that was comprised of 14 classrooms and 388 students. The first graduating class in 1929, was comprised of six boys and eight girls.

During its history B-CC has created unforgettable moments for its students and community. In 1937, B-CC High School welcomed First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt to address its graduating class. During the 1940's, B-CC helped with the war effort by raising funds to help buy an amphibious tank for the army and other equipment. Also, 43 graduates of B-CC gave the ultimate sacrifice to ensure freedom during World War II. The 1950's brought change to B-CC as African-Americans were integrated into the school. In addition, the school was ranked as one of the top high schools in the country by Time magazine. The decade ended with future president John F. Kennedy delivering a commencement address in 1959.

On April 28, 2002, we celebrated the new era for B-CC High School with the dedication of the updated building. Principal Katy Harvey

is fortunate to lead the school into the 21st century, with new architecture and technology that will enhance the learning environment. The new school is worth the wait and sacrifice you have all made. You reflect the diversity and strength that makes America great. Our community is richer because of the students, faculty, and administration of B-CC High School.

COMMEMORATING JOHN DYSON

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Mr. John Dyson, former Commissioner of Commerce for New York State, advocate of New York State businesses, and creator of the "I Love New York" advertising campaign—a campaign that is familiar to all of us—whether a resident of the state or first-time visitor. The slogan is still popular today and the tourism industry from the many diverse areas throughout the state have benefited from its success.

In 1975—the year John was hired as head of Commerce—New York State was in the midst of an economic recession. As state officials developed a campaign to market the state's vacation opportunities, John led a team that determined tourism could be a vehicle to reverse the state's economic position. The simple yet effective "I love New York" campaign aroused pride among New Yorkers and caught on quickly as it was easily applied to the city and the countryside and has grown world-famous.

In addition to creating a timeless campaign that is still relevant today and symbolic of everything the state has to offer—from the culture of the City to the lakes of Upstate—John proposed, fought for, and won legislation and tax cuts to keep business in the state. Without John and the incentives he spearheaded, we may not be able to go to a show at Radio City Music Hall or call New York City the home of the American Stock Exchange. Through John's determination, he engineered a deal to save Radio City Music Hall and spearheaded a state effort to keep The American Stock Exchange in New York City.

The success of New York State's tourism industry can be accredited to the dedication of John Dyson. New York had the unique culture and resources to offer, but John led the way in promoting those assets that had not yet been utilized to their fullest potential with a slogan that appears everywhere—from T-shirts to bumper stickers and was complemented by a jingle that plays over radio waves and television commercials. The extremely trying time of the September 11 terrorist attacks put New York to the test, but New Yorkers showed their strength and used the symbolic "I love New York" campaign to show their support and solidarity adapting the slogan to "I love New York Now More than Ever."

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Mr. John Dyson and his devoted efforts on behalf of businesses and the tourism industry in New York State.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE R. NETHERCUTT, JR.

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. NETHERCUTT. Mr. Speaker, I was present on the floor during passage of H.R. 3231 (Roll no. 116) and intended to vote in favor of the bill. The record, however, does not reflect that I cast a vote. Apparently my vote was not electronically recorded; therefore, I wish the record to note that I fully support the bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM KOLBE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 29, 2002

Mr. KOLBE. Mr. Speaker, on April 24, 2002, I was on the House Floor but inadvertently failed to vote during passage of H.R. 3763, the Corporate and Auditing Accountability and Responsibility Act. Had I voted, I would have voted "yea" on this vote (#110).

CORPORATE AND AUDITING ACCOUNTABILITY, RESPONSIBILITY, AND TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3763) to protect investors by improving the accuracy and reliability of corporate disclosures made pursuant to the securities laws, and for other purposes:

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Chairman, I want to take this opportunity to clarify several matters on this legislation. First, I want to discuss a specific provision of the legislation. H.R. 3763 provides enhancements necessary to support the Securities and Exchange Commission in its role to protect investors of public companies, including the unique relationships of auditors to the absentee shareholder. It is not intended to extend to auditors of privately-held companies or other, smaller regulated entities. These entities are uniquely different from global public companies in many ways. For example, many of these smaller companies do not have large executive staffs. Instead, they rely on their CPA/auditor to provide objective, trusted advice and counsel on a broad range of tax and business issues. Extending the reach of these restrictions to such firms could create unintended harmful consequences to an important segment of the U.S. economy.

It is for this reason that the bill contains section 2(j), clarifying the application of the bill. This section is intended to ensure that public regulatory organizations are properly focused on the auditors of public companies with respect to their audits of such companies. It is not meant to apply to the thousands of Amer-

ican accountants that continue to provide trusted advice to their small business clients.

Second, Mr. Chairman, I want to take this opportunity to correct a specific error that appeared in the Committee's report on the legislation. On page 31 of the Committee Report (H. Rept. 107-414), the sponsor of amendment No. 1b(5) is incorrectly identified as Ms. HOOLEY of Indiana. The correct sponsor should be Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. I regret any confusion caused by this error and apologize to the gentlety from Oregon (Ms. HOOLEY).

Finally, Mr. Chairman, I am including for the RECORD the cost estimate prepared by the Congressional Budget Office on H.R. 3763. It was not available at the time the Committee's report was filed on the bill, and I am including it here to ensure a complete legislative history for the bill.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2002.

Hon. MICHAEL G. OXLEY,
Chairman, Committee on Financial Services,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.
DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 3763, the Corporate and Auditing Accountability, Responsibility, and Transparency Act of 2002.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contacts are Ken Johnson (for federal costs), Paige Piper/Bach (for the private-sector impact), and Susan Sieg Tompkins (for the state and local impact).

Sincerely,

BARRY B. ANDERSON
(For Dan L. Crippen, Director).

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST
ESTIMATE, APRIL 26, 2002

[H.R. 3763: Corporate and Auditing Accountability, Responsibility, and Transparency Act of 2002, as passed by the House of Representatives on April 24, 2002]

SUMMARY

H.R. 3763 would establish a new board to oversee the accounting industry and would give the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) the authority to review the board's decisions. This new board would be known as the Public Regulatory Organization (PRO). Also, the act would require the SEC to review the financial statements of public companies no less than once every three years. H.R. 3763 would mandate that the agency receive and publicize certain filings related to insider trading in electronic format. The SEC and the General Accounting Office (GAO) also would be required to complete a number of studies and rulemakings within several months of enactment.

In addition, H.R. 3736 would allow the SEC to assess new civil penalties for violations of the act's provisions. The act also would require that any civil penalties collected by the SEC from Enron Corporation, or from Arthur Andersen L.L.C. concerning its audits of Enron, be paid directly to former Enron employees and others designated by the agency.

Based on information from the SEC, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3763 would cost about \$150 million over the 2002-2007 period, assuming the appropriation of the necessary amounts. Under current law, the SEC's discretionary costs are offset by fees the agency collects from securities markets. Enactment of H.R. 3763 would not change the amount of fees expected to be collected in the future. CBO also estimates that H.R. 3763 would increase revenues and direct spending.

Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. We estimate that the net change in such effects would be insignificant each year.

H.R. 3763 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

H.R. 3763 would impose several private-sector mandates, as defined by UMRA, on certain accountants, companies that issue registered securities, officers and directors of those companies, and certain owners of the securities. CBO cannot determine whether the total direct cost of those mandates would exceed the annual threshold established by UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$115 million in 2002, adjusted annually for inflation), as we do not have sufficient information to estimate the cost of prohibiting insider trading during blackout periods when investment activity is restricted.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3763 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation would fall within budget function 370 (commerce and housing credit).

	By fiscal year, in millions of dollars				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION ¹					
Estimated Authorization Level ²	36	31	31	31	31
Estimated Outlays ²	28	31	30	30	30

¹ H.R. 3763 also would have negligible net effects on revenues and direct spending.

² Subject to appropriation acts, the gross spending of the SEC is offset by fees the agency collects from securities markets. CBO estimates that the SEC collections will average about \$1.6 billion a year over the next five years.

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For the purposes of this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 3763 will be enacted by the end of 2002. Assuming appropriation of the necessary funds, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 3763 would cost \$150 million during the 2003-2007 period. The SEC's gross spending is offset by fees the agency collects from securities markets on transactions registrations, and mergers of securities. The act also would affect both revenues and direct spending, but the net impact would be negligible for each year.

Spending Subject to Appropriation

H.R. 3763 would require the SEC to review financial statements from every public company at least once every three years. Currently, the SEC employs about 300 people who review about 14,000 annual financial statements submitted by publicly traded companies at a rate of once every five to seven years. Based on information from the SEC, CBO expects that shortening the time between reviews to three years would require doubling the workforce that conducts such reviews. At current pay rates, CBO estimates that salaries and expenses for the new personnel would cost about \$30 million a year, assuming appropriation of the necessary funds.

In addition, implementing two provisions of H.R. 3763 would require the SEC to upgrade its computer systems. First, the act would require the agency to establish a new rating system to review the financial statements of riskier companies more frequently. Also, the agency would have to receive and publicize electronically certain filings related to insider trading. Based on information from the agency, CBO expects that the computer upgrades needed to fulfill these requirements would cost about \$1 million in 2003 and less than \$500,000 every year thereafter, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

H.R. 3763 also would require the SEC to review any sanctions or rulemakings proposed by the PRO. Based on information from the SEC, CBO expects that the agency would need to hire additional workers to oversee the PRO. Assuming that these new personnel would be compensated at current pay rates, CBO estimates that implementing these provisions would cost less than \$1 million a year, subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

H.R. 3763 would require SEC and GAO to complete a number of studies and rulemakings within several months of the act's enactment. Based on information from the CBO estimates that implementing these provisions would cost \$4 million over the 2002-2004 period, assuming the appropriation of the necessary amounts.

Revenues and Direct Spending

H.R. 3763 would establish new civil penalties for people who mislead auditors in a way that distorts financial statements, officers who trade their companies' stock during periods when employees are not allowed to trade that stock, and other persons who violate the act's provisions. Such civil penalties are recorded in the budget as governmental receipts (revenues). Based on information from the SEC, CBO estimates that these provisions would increase revenues by less than \$500,000 a year.

Under the act, any civil penalties collected by the SEC under current law from Enron Corporation, or from Arthur Andersen L.L.C. related to its Enron audits, would be paid directly to Enron employees and others. Because of the low probability that the SEC would both assess and be able to collect civil penalties from these two companies, we expect that any change in direct spending that would result from this provision would be negligible.

Under the act, all financial statements required to be filed with the SEC under the securities laws would have to be certified by an accountant that was deemed qualified to do so by the PRO. CBO expects this provision would give the SEC, acting through the PRO, substantial authority to regulate and control entry into the accounting industry. In addition, the SEC could control the appointment of officers to the PRO board, would approve its annual budget, and could grant the PRO board members the authority to subpoena witnesses. Because the PRO would have regulatory power over the accounting industry, thus exercising the sovereign power of the federal government, CBO would consider it a governmental entity. As a result, we believe that its collections and spending should be included in the federal budget.

H.R. 3763 would require that the board by self-funded, although the act does not specify the nature or the intended payers of any fees or charges it might assess. Based on information from the SEC, we expect the PRO would cost at least a few million dollars a year to operate. Without such details, we cannot determine whether these fees should be classified in the budget as governmental receipts or offsetting receipts. CBO estimates, however, that the net effect of the board's collec-

tions and spending under H.R. 3763 would not be significant in any year.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act sets up pay-as-you-go procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or receipts. CBO estimates that H.R. 3763's net pay-as-you-go effects would be insignificant for each year.

ESTIMATED IMPACT ON STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS

H.R. 376 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED IMPACT ON THE PRIVATE SECTOR

H.R. 3763 would impose several private-sector mandates, as defined by UMRA, on certain accountants, companies that issued registered securities, officers and directors of those companies, and certain owners of the securities. CBO cannot determine whether the total direct cost of those mandates would exceed the annual threshold established by UMRA for private-sector mandates (\$115 million in 2002, adjusted annually for inflation), as we do not have sufficient information to estimate the cost of prohibiting insider trading during the blackout periods when investment activity is restricted.

Under the bill, independent public or certified accountants would be: Subject to a system of review by a public regulatory organization to be established under the act; prohibited from offering both audit and certain nonaudit consulting services (financial information system design or implementation services or internal audit services); and required to prepare final audit work papers and maintain them and other information related to certified financial statements for at least seven years.

According to the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and other industry representatives, the industry currently: Sponsors a private entity that reviews independent accountants; has voluntarily stopped offering both audit and such nonaudit consulting services; and retains financial statement working papers and records for seven years.

Therefore, CBO estimates that the direct cost to comply with those new mandates would be small, if any.

H.R. 3763 would require that the public regulatory organization be self-funded. Based on information from the SEC, the annual cost of operating the public regulatory organization would be at least a few million dollars. Although the act does not specify the nature of the intended payers of any fees or charges to fund the organization, it is likely that such fees would be levied on the accounting industry and other private entities involved in investment activities. Currently, the accounting industry is self-regulated and voluntarily provides the funding.

Accelerated Financial Information Disclosure

Under sections 4 and 6 of the act, the SEC would prescribe rules that would require companies that issue securities to file and make public certain financial information on

a rapid and essentially contemporaneous basis and to provide additional financial information in periodic financial reports to the SEC. The cost of providing real-time disclosure of financial information and additional financial reporting would depend on rules to be prescribed by the SEC. Since the regulations have not been established, CBO cannot estimate the cost to comply with those mandates.

Section 4 would require officers and directors of companies that issue securities and certain owners of such securities to disclose electronically to the SEC any insider trading before the end to the next business day. According to the SEC, insider trading disclosure is currently required to be reported to the SEC by the tenth day of the month following the month in which the trade occurred. Under the act, the SEC is required to facilitate electronic filing and disclosure through revising forms needed for reporting. Thus, CBO estimates that the cost of providing such information on an expedited basis would be small.

Section 4 also would require a company that issues securities to provide on their corporate Web site insider trading information before the end of next business day after the day the disclosure is received by the SEC. According to the SEC, an average of 15 to 20 insider trades per company each year would need to be posted on the company's Web site. With the requirement that the SEC facilitate electronic filing and disclosure, CBO, therefore, estimates that the cost of posting insider trading information on a company's Web site would be small.

Periodic Restrictions on Insider Trading

Section 5 would prohibit certain owners and officers of a company from selling equity securities issued by that company during a period (called "blackout" periods) when participants in the retirement plan are restricted in their ability to direct investments. Such periods may occur for administrative reasons, for example, when a plan changes recordkeepers. This restriction would increase the financial exposure of affected owners and officers and, thus, could impose a cost of them. CBO does not have sufficient information to estimate the amount of that cost.

Code of Ethics Disclosures

Section 8 would require the SEC to prescribe rules that would require companies that issue securities to immediately disclose electronically any changes in, or waiver of, their code of ethics to the SEC. Based on information from the SEC, a change in a company's code of ethics occurs very infrequently; therefore, CBO estimates the direct cost to comply with this requirement would be minimal.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Ken Johnson; Impact on the Private Sector: Paige Piper/Bach; and Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Susan Sieg Tompkins.

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 30, 2002 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 1

9:30 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Treasury Department's report to Congress on International Economic and Exchange Rate Policy.

SD-538

Appropriations

VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2003 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

SD-138

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2003 for the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration.

SR-253

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Elias Zerhouni, to be Director of the National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services (pending receipt by the Senate).

SD-430

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2003 for the United States Navy.

SD-192

10:15 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the future of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

SD-419

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Legislative Branch Subcommittee

To hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2003 for the Office of the Senate Sergeant at Arms and U.S. Capitol Police.

SD-124

2:30 p.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Housing and Transportation Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings to examine proposed legislation authorizing funds

for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Federal Housing Policy.

SD-538

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

MAY 2

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine pending legislation.

SR-418

Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To resume hearings to examine how gasoline prices are set and why they have become so volatile.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold oversight hearings to examine bringing more Americans into the financial mainstream.

SD-538

Appropriations

To resume hearings to examine homeland security funding issues and proposed legislation making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002.

SD-192

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Public Health Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine certain provisions of the Hatch-Waxman Act, assuring greater access to affordable pharmaceuticals.

SSHR07

10:15 a.m.

Foreign Relations

International Operations and Terrorism Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the protection of U. S. citizens from terrorism abroad.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine restructuring issues within the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice.

SD-226

MAY 3

10 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine transformation plans of the United States Postal Service.

SD-342

MAY 7

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the role of the Board of Directors in the collapse of the Enron Corporation.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations

To resume hearings to examine homeland security funding issues and proposed legislation making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2002.

SD-192

3 p.m.

Armed Services

Airland Subcommittee

Closed business meeting to markup those provisions, which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of proposed legislation authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SR-232A

4 p.m.

Armed Services

Personnel Subcommittee

Closed business meeting to markup those provisions, which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of proposed legislation authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SR-222

5 p.m.

Armed Services

Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

Closed business meeting to markup those provisions, which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of proposed legislation authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SR-232A

MAY 8

9 a.m.

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

Closed business meeting to markup those provisions, which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of proposed legislation authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SR-232A

10 a.m.

Armed Services

Strategic Subcommittee

Closed business meeting to markup those provisions, which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of proposed legislation authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SR-222

11:30 a.m.

Armed Services

Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee

Closed business meeting to markup those provisions, which fall within the jurisdiction of the subcommittee, of proposed legislation authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SR-232A

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

Closed business meeting to markup proposed legislation authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SR-222

MAY 9

9:30 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine revenue issues related to the Highway Trust Fund.

SD-215

Armed Services

MAY 17

tion disputes between Russia and
China.

Closed business meeting to continue to
markup proposed legislation author-
izing appropriations for fiscal year 2003
for military activities of the Depart-
ment of Defense.

10:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs
International Security, Proliferation and
Federal Services Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine non-pro-
liferation programs, focusing on U.S.
cruise missile threat.

SR-222

SD-342

CANCELLATIONS

MAY 2

MAY 10

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

Closed business meeting to continue to
markup proposed legislation author-
izing appropriations for fiscal year 2003
for military activities of the Depart-
ment of Defense.

SR-222

MAY 21

9:30 a.m.

Governmental Affairs
International Security, Proliferation and
Federal Services Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine difficulties
and solutions concerning nonprolifera-

SD-342

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works
Superfund, Toxics, Risk, and Waste Man-
agement Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine asbestos re-
mediation activities in Libby, Mon-
tana, and evaluate public health con-
cerns related to vermiculite home insu-
lation.

SD-406